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State of North Carolina  
Utilities Commission

4325 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-4325

September 3, 2003

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Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Room TW-204B  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket 96-45 and 00-256  
Certification Under 47 U.S.C. 254(e)  
(NCUC Docket No. P-100, Sub 133n)

Dear Secretary Dortch

The North Carolina Utilities Commission (NCUC) hereby submits its certification in accordance with 47 C.F.R. 54.314. This section of the Commission's rules requires state certification in order to allow rural incumbent local exchange carriers, or eligible telecommunications carriers in rural service areas, to receive federal high-cost support.

As required by 47 C.F.R. 54.314, the NCUC certifies that ALLTEL Carolina, Inc., Barnardsville Telephone Company, Citizens Telephone Company, Concord Telephone Company, Ellerbe Telephone Company, LEXCOM Telephone Company, MEBTEL, Inc., Pineville Telephone Company, Randolph Telephone Company, Saluda Mountain Telephone Company, and Service Telephone Company are eligible to receive "hold harmless" federal support during the period of January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2004. The NCUC further certifies that these Companies will use such federal support only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of the facilities and services for which the support is intended.

Very truly yours,

Jo Anne Sanford, Chair  
North Carolina Utilities Commission

JAS/dl

cc: Office of Administrator  
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